

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A disposable wearing article, comprising:
 - a holder member having a front waist region, a rear waist region and a crotch region extending in a longitudinal direction of said holder member between said waist regions, said holder member further having an upper surface adapted to face a wearer's body in use and a lower surface adapted to face away from said wearer's body in use; and
 - a bodily discharge receiving member removably retainable by said holder member;
 - wherein
 - said crotch region is provided in a transversely middle zone thereof with a through-hole extending between said upper surface and said lower surface;
 - said receiving member comprises
 - an annular portion removably insertable from below said holder member through said through-hole so as to be located on the upper surface in the transversely middle zone of said crotch region for surrounding at least one of an anus and a urethral orifice of the wearer in use, said annular portion having an upper circumferential edge that is rounded so as to facilitate the insertion of said annular portion from below said holder member through said through-hole; and
 - a discharge containing portion joined to and in fluid communication with said annular portion for receiving bodily discharges flowing through said annular portion;

when said receiving member is retained by said holder member, said annular portion is located above the upper surface whereas said discharge containing portion is positioned below the lower surface; and

said holder member comprises

a high elasticity segment having an X-shape and extending from a periphery of said through-hole towards transversely opposite side edge portions of said front and rear waist regions; and

a low elasticity segment located outside said high elasticity segment; and

said discharge containing portion comprises

a top wall having an aperture in fluid communication with the annular portion;

a bottom wall exposed on the lower surface of said holder member to an outside of said wearing article, for allowing access to and exchange of said receiving member from the outside of said wearing article;

a side wall connecting the top wall and the bottom wall; and

an absorbent core containing absorbent material, wherein said absorbent core is directly bonded to the top wall around the aperture and upwardly spaced from the bottom wall; and

a height of said annular portion, relative to the upper surface of the holder member when said receiving member is retained by said holder member, gradually increases from one of said front and rear waist regions toward the other of said front and rear waist regions and is maximal at an apex located on a longitudinal center line of said wearing article.

2. (previously presented) The article according to claim 1, wherein the transversely opposite side edge portions of said front and rear waist regions are either releasably engageable with each other or permanently joined together to define a waist-hole and a pair of leg-holes.

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The article according to claim 1, wherein said annular portion comprises flexible and elastically compressible foamed plastic.

5. (previously presented) The article according to claim 1, wherein the walls of said discharge containing portion are formed by a liquid-impervious and elastically stretchable sheet which renders said discharge containing portion enlargeable under a weight of the discharge received in said discharge containing portion.

6. (previously presented) The article according to claim 1, wherein said holder member is washable and reusable.

7. (previously presented) The article according to claim 1, wherein said holder member comprises

a topsheet defining said upper surface;

a backsheet bonded to the topsheet and defining said lower surface; and

an X-shaped elastically stretchable sheet bonded to at least one of said topsheet and backsheet and defining said high elasticity segment.

8. (previously presented) The article according to claim 7, wherein said X-shaped sheet is sandwiched between said topsheet and backsheet.

9. (previously presented) The article according to claim 7, wherein said X-shaped sheet is positioned on top and bonded to said topsheet.

10. (previously presented) The article according to claim 7, wherein said topsheet and backsheet are elastically stretchable and have a stretch stress not higher than that of said X-shaped sheet.

11-13. (canceled)

14. **(currently amended)** A disposable wearing article, comprising:
a holder member having a front waist region, a rear waist region and a crotch region extending in a longitudinal direction of said holder member between said waist regions, said holder member further having an upper surface adapted to contact a wearer's body in use and a lower surface adapted to contact said wearer's clothing in use; and
a bodily discharge receiving member removably retainable by said holder member;
wherein
said crotch region has in a transversely middle zone thereof a through-hole extending between said upper surface and said lower surface;
said receiving member comprises
an annular portion removably insertable from below said holder member through said through-hole so as to be located on the upper surface in the transversely middle zone of said crotch region for surrounding at least one of an anus and a urethral orifice of the wearer in use, said annular portion having inner and outer circumferential surfaces and a top surface connecting said inner and outer circumferential surfaces, said top surface being convex upward to define an upper circumferential edge that is rounded so as to facilitate the insertion of said annular portion from below said holder member through said through-hole; and
a discharge containing portion joined to and in fluid communication with said annular portion for receiving bodily discharges flowing through said annular portion;

when said receiving member is retained by said holder member, said annular portion is located above the upper surface whereas said discharge containing portion is positioned below the lower surface; and

said discharge containing portion comprises

a top wall having an aperture in fluid communication with the annular portion;

a bottom wall exposed on the lower surface of said holder member to an outside of said wearing article, for allowing access to and exchange of said receiving member from the outside of said wearing article;

a side wall connecting the top wall and the bottom wall; and

an absorbent core containing absorbent material ~~wherein said absorbent core is disposed at and directly bonded to an underside of the top wall around the aperture and upwardly spaced from the bottom wall.~~

15. (previously presented) The article according to claim 14, wherein the walls of said discharge containing portion are formed by a liquid-impervious and elastically stretchable sheet which renders said discharge containing portion enlargeable under a weight of the discharge received in said discharge containing portion.

16-18. (canceled)

19. **(currently amended)** The article according to claim ~~[[18]]~~ 14, wherein said annular portion includes a liquid-impervious top covering sheet bonded to the top wall of said discharge containing portion around said aperture, and ~~[[is]]~~ flexible and elastically compressible material filled between said top covering sheet and the top wall of said discharge containing portion, and ~~[[has]]~~

a height of said annular portion, as measured upwardly from the top wall of said discharge containing portion, greater than a height measured between the top wall and the bottom wall of said discharge containing portion gradually increases toward at least one of longitudinally opposite ends of said annular portion.

20. **(currently amended)** A bodily discharge receiving member for use with a holder member in a disposable wearing article, the holder member having a front waist region, a rear waist region and a crotch region extending in a longitudinal direction of said holder member between said waist regions, said holder member further having an upper surface adapted to contact a wearer's body in use and a lower surface adapted to contact said wearer's clothing in use, said crotch region having in a transversely middle zone thereof a through-hole extending between said upper surface and said lower surface, said bodily discharge receiving member being removably retainable by said holder member and comprising:

an annular portion removably insertable from below said holder member through said through-hole so as to be located on the upper surface in the transversely middle zone of said crotch region for surrounding at least one of an anus and a urethral orifice of the wearer in use, said annular portion having inner and outer circumferential surfaces and a top surface connecting said inner and outer circumferential surfaces, said top surface being convex upward to define an upper circumferential edge that is rounded so as to facilitate the insertion of said annular portion from below said holder member through said through-hole; and

a discharge containing portion joined to and in fluid communication with said annular portion for receiving bodily discharges flowing through said annular portion;

wherein

when said receiving member is retained by said holder member, said annular portion is located above the upper surface whereas said discharge containing portion is positioned below the lower surface; and

said discharge containing portion comprises

a top wall having an aperture in fluid communication with the annular portion;

a bottom wall adapted to be exposed on the lower surface of said holder member to an outside of said wearing article, for allowing access to and exchange of said receiving member from the outside of said wearing article;

a side wall connecting the top wall and the bottom wall; and

an absorbent core containing absorbent material, and wherein said absorbent core is disposed at and directly bonded to an underside of the top wall around the aperture and upwardly spaced from the bottom wall

said annular portion comprises:

a liquid-impervious top covering sheet defining said inner and outer circumferential surfaces as well as said top surface, said liquid-impervious top covering sheet being bonded to the top wall of said discharge containing portion around said aperture; and

flexible and elastically compressible material filled between said top covering sheet and the top wall of said discharge containing portion.

21. (previously presented) The receiving member according to claim 20, wherein the walls of said discharge containing portion are formed by a liquid-impervious sheet which is elastically stretchable;

said liquid-impervious sheet rendering said discharge containing portion enlargeable under a weight of the discharge received in said discharge containing portion.

22. (canceled)

23. **(currently amended)** The receiving member according to claim 20, wherein said annular portion has

~~extends upwardly from an upperside of said top wall and around the aperture,~~
~~is flexible and elastically compressible, and~~
~~has a height measured upwardly from the top wall of said discharge containing portion~~
~~greater than a height measured between the top wall and the bottom wall of said discharge~~
~~containing portion~~
a front end segment adapted to be adjacent said front waist region in use, and
a rear end segment adapted to be adjacent said rear waist region in use,
wherein a height of said annular portion, as measured upwardly from the top wall of said
discharge containing portion, gradually increases from the front end segment towards the rear end
segment.

24. (previously presented) The receiving member according to claim 20, wherein the walls of said discharge containing portion are formed by a liquid-impervious sheet which is not elastically stretchable but formed with gathers;

said liquid-impervious sheet rendering said discharge containing portion enlargeable under a weight of the discharge received in said discharge containing portion.

25. (previously presented) The article according to claim 1, wherein the walls of said discharge containing portion are formed by a liquid-impervious sheet which is not elastically stretchable but formed with gathers;

said liquid-impervious sheet rendering said discharge containing portion enlargeable under a weight of the discharge received in said discharge containing portion.

26. (previously presented) The article according to claim 14, wherein the walls of said discharge containing portion are formed by a liquid-impervious sheet which is not elastically stretchable but formed with gathers;

said liquid-impervious sheet rendering said discharge containing portion enlargeable under

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a weight of the discharge received in said discharge containing portion.

27. **(new)** The receiving member according to claim 23, wherein said height is maximal at an apex of the rear end segment on a longitudinal center line of said receiving member.

28. **(new)** The article according to claim 19, wherein said height is maximal at an apex on a longitudinal center line of said receiving member.